

have served the purpose and saved considerable time and money for the District and the Congress.

I ask my colleagues who are urging the District government to pursue greater efficiency and savings to do your part in giving the city the tools to cut through the bureaucratic maze the Congress has imposed upon the District. Congress has been clear it wants to see the DC government taken apart and put back together again in an effort to eliminate redundancy and inefficiency. Congress should therefore eliminate the bureaucracy in DC that Congress is solely responsible for by granting the city budgetary and legislative authority.

Only through true budgetary and legislative autonomy can the District realize meaningful self-government and Home Rule. The President and the Congress took the first step in relieving the District of costly escalating state functions in the President's Plan. This bill takes the next logical step by granting the District control over its own budgetary and legislative affairs. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure.

THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 1998*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman PORTMAN and I have introduced The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998. This legislation eliminates duplicative paperwork for those individuals and groups attempting to get federal assistance. The bill also removes federal road blocks to coordinating service delivery for families receiving federal assistance. The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998 establishes the framework by which federal, state and local agencies can more efficiently deliver services to those in need.

We have asked families to get back on their feet so they can take care of themselves and their children but our maze of federal regulations makes it more difficult for community programs to assist families in doing this. We must help these families to help themselves. The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998 coordinates federal service programs to better serve our Nation's children and families and I am pleased to introduce it today with my colleagues ROB PORTMAN, JIM MORAN, CHRIS SHAYS, TOM DAVIS, STEVE HORN, GARY CONDIT, DENNIS KUCINICH, BOB WEYGAND, ROSA DELAURO, JIM MCGOVERN, CAROLYN KILPATRICK, JIM TALENT, MARK SANFORD, and JOHN SUNUNU.

IN TRIBUTE TO BOB CRANDALL

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 1998*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today marks the retirement of one of the most prominent fig-

ures in American aviation. After twenty five years, the last thirteen as Chairman and CEO, Bob Crandall is leaving American Airlines. His legacy is immense.

A vehement opponent of deregulation in the 1970s, Bob Crandall guided American and, in turn, other airlines through the tumultuous 1980s. Bob Crandall's innovations—computer reservations systems, frequent flier programs, super saver fares and the hub and spoke system, to name a few—have become industry standards. American Airlines has tripled in size since moving its headquarters to Dallas-Fort Worth, which has grown with American to become one of the busiest airports in the United States.

We congratulate him as he leaves American and thank him for his visionary leadership both in the aviation community and in the Metroplex. We do not know exactly what his future holds, but we hope we have not heard the last of Bob Crandall.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT"

**HON. TED STRICKLAND**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 1998*

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, along with my colleague Mr. ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky, which would guarantee that an amount equal to the tax windfall the federal government receives from the privatized United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) would help to assist job creation and stimulate economic development in southern Ohio and western Kentucky. In the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the government-owned corporation USEC was created to assume responsibility for the Department of Energy's (DOE) uranium enrichment program. The 1992 Energy Policy Act not only transferred the Department's uranium enrichment program to USEC, but it also included a requirement that USEC prepare a strategic plan to privatize the corporation. On June 30, 1995, USEC issued its privatization plan. Today, that privatization plan is near completion and the transfer of this public asset will take place as soon as this summer.

Back in the 1950's the Department of Energy's gaseous diffusion plants in Piketon, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky operated to supply enriched uranium for U.S. nuclear weapons and later for reactor fuel for nuclear submarines. Today, the Piketon and Paducah facilities provide an essential service in the production of fuel for commercial nuclear power plants operated by electric utilities. Unfortunately, the changes in DOE's mission have led to significant workforce reductions at the plant in southern Ohio, and this downsizing dramatically affects a region which has not experienced the unparalleled economic recovery so many other communities throughout the country have enjoyed. Under privatization, USEC intends to restructure its operation and there is a growing uncertainty about the security of existing jobs at the plant. Therefore, I believe the bill we are introducing today provides a reasonable approach to addressing the needs of the workers, their families and the communities of Ohio and Kentucky that supported our efforts during the Cold War.

Specifically, the bill directs the Department of Energy's Worker and Community Transition Office to set up and manage a fund dedicated to improve economic security of the communities which depend on and support the operation of the two uranium enrichment plants located in Piketon, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. The appropriation to this fund would be authorized at a level equal to the tax windfall received by the federal government from the privatized USEC. Under the management of DOE's Worker and Community Transition Office, the allocation of funds to the regions would be directly related to the economic distress factors in the local communities surrounding the facilities and could provide the resources necessary to improve the economic health in these regions. Those counties experiencing the highest unemployment rates would receive larger allocations than counties with unemployment rates closer to the state average unemployment rate. These financial resources would be used to help train displaced employees and market the region for future business opportunities. This dedicated fund would dissolve when the local unemployment rates of the affected counties reach the average unemployment rate of the respective states for a period equal to at least one year.

While I recognize that downsizing at DOE facilities adversely affects local communities across the country, I doubt whether many of these communities have the pressing need that exists near the Piketon, Ohio plant. Recent unemployment statistics indicate that the average unemployment rate of the four counties surrounding the Piketon, Ohio plant is greater than 10%. The average unemployment rate in the state of Ohio is 4.3%, seasonally adjusted, and the national adjusted average unemployment rate is 4.7%. This bill is designed to address this unacceptable disparity and help to ensure that southern Ohio has an equal opportunity to contribute to this nation's economic recovery.

HONORING LOU BOOKER ON THE OCCASION OF 20 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE SANTA FE SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 1998*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lou Booker for 20 years of outstanding service as Executive Director of the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League. Lou was recognized last week in Santa Fe Springs, California.

Lou Booker and her husband Vern have two children Steve and Lynn and six grandchildren. They reside in La Palma, California.

Lou began her career with the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League in 1978. Throughout her 20 years of service, she has implemented and maintained programs that have placed Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League at the forefront of area chambers. One of the programs that Lou supports is the Rotary Club of Santa Fe Springs. Lou has also worked to expand the City of Santa Fe Springs' annual